

# **Department of Energy**

Richland Operations Office P.O. Box 550 Richland, Washington 99352

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Department or Ecology

Mr. Tom Fitzsimmons, Director State of Washington Department of Ecology P.O. Box 47600 Olympia, Washington 98504-7600

Mr. Chuck Clarke Regional Administrator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10 1200 Sixth Avenue Seattle, Washington 98101



**EDMC** 

Dear Messrs. Fitzsimmons and Clarke:

COMPLETION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR NEW HANFORD FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT AND CONSENT ORDER (TRI-PARTY AGREEMENT) MILESTONES FOR THE SURPLUS REACTORS, HANFORD SITE, WASHINGTON

Enclosed for your signature is the tentative agreement on the completed change package for the Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (Tri-Party Agreement) Negotiation of Commitments for the Completion of Disposition of Hanford's Surplus Production Reactors pending completion of the public review and comment on the changes. The enclosure details the agreements reached in establishing the Tri-Party Agreement commitments for placing the surplus reactors in interim safe storage and completing final facility disposition.

These negotiations resulted in a new Tri-Party Agreement major milestone M-93-00, a revision to Section 8.0 (Facility Decommissioning Process) of the Tri-Party Agreement, and modifications to Appendix A (Definition of Terms and Acronyms) of the Tri-Party Agreement. These commitments were developed in conjunction with members of your staff.

The original of the agreement is being provided to the State of Washington Department of Ecology for signature. The agreement should then be forwarded to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for their signature.

Should you have any questions, please contact me, or your staff can contact Mr. James E. Rasmussen, Director, Environmental Assurance, Permits, and Policy Division on (509) 376-5441.

Sincerely,

EAP: FRM

**Enclosure** 

cc w/encl:

L. Arnold, FDH

M. Blazek, Oregon DOE B. Burke, CTUIR R. Jim, YIN

D. Powaukee, Nez Perce

M. Reeves, HAB

D. Sherwood, EPA
D. Silver, Ecology
R. Smith, EPA
R. Stanley, Ecology
T. Wintczak, BHI

Change Number M-93-97-01	Federal Facility Agre Change Co Do not use blue ink. Ty	ontrol Form		0ate 3/28/97
Originator Agreement Negotiatio	n Team		Phor	ne
Class of Change [X] I - Signatorie	es [] II - Executi	ve Manager	[] III	- Project Manager
reactor final facili	al commitments for the co ty disposition. Establis t Order (Agreement) major	shment of new	w Hanford Fede	ral Facility
Description/Justification See page 2 for Descr	of Change iption/Justification of (	Change.		
associated interim m the DOE's 100 Area s milestones are affec Restoration Program' Plan. On approval	nge request by the particulestones and target date urplus production reactor ted. This approach is consisted and the sexisting baseline and the sexisting control documents.	es governing rs. No other onsistent wi the Environme d budget deve	decommissioning the Agreement mage that the Environmental Restoration of the Agreement document docume	ng/disposition of jor or interim mental ion Long-Range ents (e.g.,
	lity Agreement and Conserdevelopment documents (e Year Work Plans).			
Approvals				
DOE	Date	Approved	Disapproved	
EPA	Date	Approved _	Disapproved	
Ecology	Date	Approved _	Disapproved	

## Description/Justification of Change (continued):

The Agreement's Fourth Amendment (January 1994), and subsequent Environmental Restoration Refocusing negotiations (See Agreement change request M-16-94-03, May 1995), documented the parties commitment to negotiate schedules for the cleanup and removal of eight of Hanford's surplus production reactors, and to complete these negotiations no later than December 31, 1996. A subsequent Agreement in Principle covering these reactor negotiations was approved by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) [the parties] on December 31, 1996 which extended this commitment date to March 31, 1997.

DOE has considered the environmental impacts, risks, benefits and costs, and institutional and programmatic needs associated with the decommissioning of eight surplus production reactors at the Hanford Site (C, F. B. D. DR, H, KE & KW). This analysis was documented in DOE's Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). Decommissioning of Eight Surplus Production Reactors at the Hanford Site, Richland, Washington (DOE/EIS-0119F, December 1992). The results of this review resulted in a 1993 record of decision (ROD) which documented the selected (final disposition) alternative of interim safe storage followed by deferred one-piece removal of the eight surplus reactors (Due to interest in a B reactor engineering accomplishment museum and/or landmark, it was recognized that cleanup activities at B reactor may take a different course). With this potential exception noted, final disposition of Hanford's surplus production reactors will be conducted in a phased approach as follows:

- Disposition Phase I: Interim Safe Storage (ISS) of the Reactors Interim Safe Storage (ISS) is the first stage of final disposition. It consists of (I) ensuring that facility hazardous substances are, and will remain, safe and secure, and (ii) reducing the footprint of the reactor building to the primary shield wall, and sealing all openings such that the facility is in an environmentally safe and secure condition prior to initiation of disposition phase II. During reactor ISS all ancillary structures surrounding the shield wall will be removed. Resulting wastes will be disposed at Hanford's Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility (ERDF), or other disposal facility as may be approved by the parties. On completion of ISS, surveillance and maintenance systems will be upgraded as appropriate to provide for remote monitoring of the remaining structure prior to disposition phase II.
- Disposition Phase II: Final Disposition of the Reactors Final disposition of the reactors will consist of removing the reactor cores from their present location to a disposal facility in the 200 Area of the Hanford Site as specified in the FEIS-ROD. Associated structure(s) and residual wastes will be removed so as to meet established cleanup requirements pertaining to Hanford's 100 Area. Resulting wastes will be disposed at Hanford's ERDF, or other disposal facility as may be approved by the parties.

The surplus reactor FEIS ROD also documented DOE's commitment to complete surplus reactor disposition consistent with Agreement remedial action cleanup schedules, and its recognition that doing so would result in reactor safe storage period(s) of less than the potential 75-years outlined in the FEIS. The DOE committed that should the surplus

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reactor FEIS ROD prove to be inconsistent with Agreement CERCLA and RCRA activities (e.g., activities under Agreement milestone M-16-00), it would re-evaluate the priority of selected alternative actions, and whether it may be more appropriate to proceed with the selected alternative on an Operable Unit-by-Operable Unit basis. In recognition: (I) of this commitment; (ii) of the conservatism associated with some reactor disposition assumptions (e.g., land use planning, environmental impact, cost, risk, public and worker health and safety, and coordination with other Agreement activities); and (iii) of the potential that more efficient and effective decommissioning may be achieved through the use of new and innovative technologies and designs, the parties have agreed to the issuance of a reactor disposition Competitive Procurement Initiative. This initiative will be designed with the objective of aiding the parties in ascertaining the most effective and efficient approach to selected alternative implementation for the final disposition of the reactors. The procurement initiative will evaluate the existing baseline assumptions and technologies, incorporate new approaches, and present recommendations for continuing with the ISS approach or proceeding directly to final removal of the reactor. The timing of this initiative (February 2002) has been designed so as to complement and coincide with knowledge gained through interim safe storage of Hanford's first two surplus reactors (C&F).

Following acquisition of this information, the parties have committed to negotiate remaining surplus reactor disposition schedules (see M-93-14 and 15).

Prior to the initiation of reactor disposition phase II the DOE will place and maintain Hanford's surplus production reactors in a condition sufficient for "interim safe storage" (see definitions and associated work schedules within this tentative agreement). The parties recognize that though Hanford's eight surplus production reactors have not undergone formal "facility transition", each has been transferred organizationally to DOE'S Environmental Restoration (ER) Program, and are under Surveillance and Maintenance (S&M). Hanford's 105&109-N reactor facilities will be placed under S&M when deactivation is complete in 1997. Final disposition of the reactors (with the potential exception of B reactor) will consist of the removal of the reactor cores from their present locations along the Columbia River to a waste disposal facility in the 200 Area of the Hanford Site, in accordance with the FEIS-ROD.

<u>N reactor specific considerations</u>: Because Hanford's N reactor had yet to be shut down, DOE'S FEIS ROD was restricted to the site's eight other reactor facilities. Consequently, DOE has committed to prepare, and to present for public comment, appropriate environmental documentation. N reactor is expected to follow a disposition path similar to Hanford's other surplus production reactors, and by agreement of the parties its disposition is within the scope of this M-93-00 milestone series.

In addition, and due to design considerations, the parties agree that ISS of Hanford's N reactor will include both the 105 and 109-N buildings. The 109-N building (Heat Exchanger Building) contains a portion of the N reactor primary cooling water system. Consequently, it is impracticable to consider 109-N as a facility separate from 105-N and its reactor confinement system.

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<u>B reactor specific considerations</u>: The parties recognize that B reactor has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places, and that the reactor may be converted into a national engineering accomplishment museum and/or landmark. However, the path forward for making necessary reactor disposition cleanup decisions, and facility configuration decisions should B reactor be preserved have not been fully identified at this time. Consequently, for purposes of this Agreement, the parties' activities focus on ensuring the integration of Agreement "cleanup" decision processes and those conducted pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Prior to final decision making, B reactor will be placed and maintained in a safe and environmentally secure condition (see M-93-04, 05 and 06-T01).

<u>C reactor specific considerations</u>: The parties are proceeding with Interim Safe Storage (ISS) of the C Reactor (105-C) as a Large-Scale Demonstration Project supported by DOE'S Office of Science and Technology (EM-50). This project will demonstrate full scale field testing of at least twenty (20) facility decommissioning technologies. Completion of C reactor ISS will provide a far safer S&M work environment prior to reactor disposition phase II, and will greatly reduce the potential for environmental release, and intrusion. C reactor ISS (disposition phase I) activities will fully support implementation of the FEIS ROD.

The parties recognize that C Reactor ISS implementation is a demonstration and that future ISS is contingent on success in the demonstration.

This change control form establishes the following major and interim milestones and target dates for the disposition of the surplus reactors:

MILESTONE DESCRIPTION DUE DATE

M-93-00

Complete final disposition of all 100 Area surplus production reactor buildings.

TBD

100 Area surplus production reactor buildings consist of the following: 105-D, 105-DR, 105-H, and 105/109-N (Ecology lead), and 105-B, 105-C, 105-F, 105-KE, and 105-KW (EPA lead).

#### 105-C Reactor Interim Safe Storage

M-93-01 Submit recommendation for final disposition of the 105-C December 1997 Fuel Storage Basin to EPA for approval.

The decision for final disposition of 105-C Fuel Storage Basin will be made based on the results of the Data Quality Objectives process, and concrete and soil sampling analysis. The final disposition decision will be consistent with the 100-B/C Remedial Action Interim Record of Decision.

M-93-02 Submit 105-C Surveillance and Maintenance Plan for EPA July 1998 approval in part.

This Milestone will be met by a S&M Plan submittal for the 105-C Reactor, or an addendum to an existing S&M Plan, covering conditions after ISS of the reactor is complete. The details of the S&M activities will be covered by project procedures.

M-93-03 Complete 105-C Reactor Interim Safe Storage Large-Scale September 1998 Demonstration Project.

This milestone includes the completion of all activities necessary to place the 105-C Reactor facility in a safe storage mode in preparation for final disposition (consistent with an approved S&M Plan and Project Design Report). The ISS of C Reactor includes the demonstration of innovative D&D technologies and the dismantlement of all 105-C facility structures outside the reactor primary shield wall. These activities include hazard stabilization, asbestos abatement, facility decontamination, pipe-cutting, fuel basin clean out, and structure removal to the primary shield wall.

### 105-B Reactor Interim Safe Storage

105-B Reactor Agreement activities will be coordinated with, and dependent in part on National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) decision processes.

M-93-04 Submit 105-B hazards assessment and characterization June 1999 report to EPA.

M-93-05	Issue B Reactor Phase II Feasibility Study Engineering Design Report for public comment.	June 2000
M-93-06-T01	Submit B Reactor Surveillance and Maintenance Plan for EPA approval in part.	June 2001
	This target will be modified to a specific interim milestone date on the completion of M-93-05.	
	105-F Reactor Interim Safe Storage	
M-93-07	Initiate 105-F ISS characterization and design.	October 1999
M-93-08-T01	Submit 105-F hazards assessment and characterization report to EPA.	June 2000
	The hazards assessment and characterization report will identify hazardous substances that will be addressed during ISS. The information will be used to assist the project in providing a safe work environment during ISS and for determining the disposal requirements and costs. The assessment will be submitted to the lead regulatory agency.	
M-93-09	Initiate 105-F ISS field activities.	October 2000
M-93-10	Submit 105-F Surveillance and Maintenance Plan for EPA approval in part.	July 2003
M-93-11	Complete 105-F Interim Safe Storage.	September 2003
	This milestone includes the completion of all activities necessary to place the 105-F Reactor facility in a safe storage mode in preparation for final disposition (consistent with an approved S&M Plan and Project Design Report). The ISS of F Reactor includes the dismantlement of all 105-F facility structures outside the reactor primary shield wall. These activities include hazard stabilization, asbestos abatement, facility decontamination, pipe-cutting, fuel basin clean out, and structure removal to the primary shield wall.	

## 105-DR reactor Competitive Procurement Initiative

M-93-12

M-93-17-T01

Issue 105-DR disposition competitive procurement package February 2002 for ascertaining the most effective and efficient approach to FEIS ROD selected alternative implementation.

The 105-DR disposition competitive procurement package initiative will be designed to aid the parties in selecting the most effective and efficient approach to implement and revise the Final Environmental Impact Statement Record of Decision selected alternative. This initiative will request an evaluation of existing baseline assumptions and lessons learned from the 105-C and 105-F Interim Safe Storage projects. It will also request an evaluation of new and innovative approaches for final disposition and will request a recommendation whether to continue with ISS approach or proceed directly to final disposition. Initiative deliverables will include, but are not limited to: (i) a detailed review of the technical baseline for surplus reactor removal and final disposition, (ii) a detailed evaluation of present day engineering and technology capabilities, (iii) updated evaluations of other FEIS ROD assumptions, (iv) a recommended alternative for final disposition. (v) a revised conceptual design for final disposition based on the above analysis and recommended alternative, and (vi) an analysis comparing proceeding with ISS versus proceeding directly to final disposition. This initiative will include incentive clauses to ensure that the most innovative and comprehensive technical evaluations are presented.

M-93-13	Initiate Characterization and Design of ISS for the 105-DR reactor	October 2002
M-93-14 .	Initiate negotiation of remaining surplus reactor disposition schedules.	June 2003
M-93-15	Complete negotiation of remaining surplus reactor disposition schedules.	December 2003
M-93-16-T01	Complete 105-DR Reactor Interim Safe Storage.	September 2005
	Completion of this target date includes the completion of all activities necessary to place the DR Reactor facility in a safe storage mode in preparation for final	

disposition. See also interim milestone M-93-12.

Complete Interim Safe Storage for the 105-D Reactor.

September 2007

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M-93-18-T01	Complete Interim Safe Storage for the 105-H Reactor.	September 2009
M-93-19-T01	Complete 105/109-N Reactor ISS design.	September 2009
M-93-20-T01	Complete 105-N Interim Safe Storage.	TBD
M-93-21-T01	Complete 105-KW Interim Safe Storage.	TBD
M-93-22-T01	Complete 105-KE Interim Safe Storage.	TBD